

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau				
FROM: Chief, Operations Group		EXTENSION	NO.	
			DATE April 1988	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. AC/Ops	20 MAY 1988		<i>[initials]</i>	<p>5 to 1 re: IEA 2 say what? rm</p>
2.				
3. C/E&PS	23 May		<i>[initials]</i>	
4. DD/FBIS	23 May		<i>B</i>	
5. D/FBIS			<i>R</i>	
6.				
7. PO/RA	5/24		<i>[initials]</i>	
8. SA/CD	5/25			
9.				
10. C/AS	27 May		<i>[initials]</i>	
11. C/B&F/AS			<i>[initials]</i>	
12.				
13.				
14. C/AG	31/5		<i>[initials]</i>	
15. Exec. Reg.				

4 May 1988  
FBIS-3212-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau -- April 1988

I. GENERAL

1. Bureau [ ] retired in the field on 30 April after almost 33 years of service and departed for their home in Bethesda, Maryland on 1 May on a 6-week trip that will take them to Malaysia, Indonesia, and across Australia by train. The couple were honored with numerous parties by the bureau, Bang Ping, the embassy, the Thai National Intelligence Agency, and numerous individuals during the month prior to their departure.

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Dick's final week on the job was not without incident, however. While crossing the street in front of the embassy to attend his final country team meeting, he was struck a glancing blow from a motorcycle running a red light that sent both he and the cycle's two occupants tumbling to the pavement. With just a bruised forearm to show from the encounter, Dick picked himself up, retrieved his attache case from the gutter, pointed out that he had the green light to the two dazed culprits still sprawled on the street, and made it to his final meeting on time.

2. Rumors that Thai Premier Prem Tinsulanon dissolved Parliament 29 April and called for snap elections 24 July to protest the Benders' departure are apparently unfounded. The official version is that the dissolution resulted from 16 ministers and deputy ministers of the Democratic Party within the governing coalition resigning from the Cabinet as a result of disunity within that party. After 31 Democratic Party dissidents voted against the government-sponsored legislation to protect U.S. copyrights in the House, party leaders opted to withdraw from the Cabinet to give the premier a free hand to bring other parties into the coalition and restore harmony. However, Prem apparently could not come to terms with the other parties and chose to dissolve Parliament instead. The reason for the government's downfall, the copyright bill, which the U.S. Government has been insisting on, continues to be an enigma to the regime despite having been passed by the House on 28 April. Since it hadn't been passed by the Senate and signed by the King prior to Parliament's dissolution, it must be voted on all over again when the new government is formed following the 24 July elections.

3. Editor [ ] received kudos from Headquarters for a

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"job well done" for his contribution to NUTS on Thai and Indochina military ranks.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The bureau was kept busy 5-20 April keeping embassy and local consumers apprised of the up-to-the-minute situation of the Kuwaiti airliner hijacked while on a flight from Thailand to Kuwait. Aside from passing on all items on the incident to USIS, significant incoming items were refiled to NIA, while VOA and the embassy's regional security officer, political section, and special assistant were kept current by phone. During the ordeal, 3 editorial reports were filed on live tv passfeeds from Algiers on the hijacking.

2. It became apparent 4 April just how quickly rumors can travel around the world when the local Reuter office called to ask if we had heard anything about Burma leader Ne Win having unexpectedly left the country. A check of Burmese broadcasts revealed nothing unusual, and a couple hours later Reuter called back to report that a check with its correspondent in Rangoon also revealed nothing. In the meantime, however, an immediate message was received from BBC asking about the same rumor. Ne Win did indeed leave Burma a few days later, but on his annual vacation to Europe.

*TALKING  
TO THE  
PRESS...!!  
Since when do we  
do research for  
Reuters?*

3. The South Asian Unit augmented its staff to cover Pakistani Prime Minister Junejo's address to the nation 13 April on the signing of the Afghan accord, filing out-of-turn excerpts "OO" on the major points of his speech followed by priority filing of the remainder. The unit was also occupied with numerous "OO" reports and commentaries on the explosion of the ammo depot in Peshawar that resulted in hundreds of casualties.

### B. Lateral Services

1. At the request of Amembassy Jakarta, the Indonesian section checked its records for the past 3 years for any PRC greetings to the outlawed Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) and Soviet/East European items on the PKI. One item was forwarded to the embassy.

2. Following a personal request from the Bangkok Representative of Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Cambodia and Asia, Headquarters agreed to change the official FBIS spelling of Sihanouk's son's name from Rannarit to Ranariddh.

3. A third embassy component was added to the bureau's list of consumers for items on Indochina refugees.

### C. Technical

1. The embassy began installation of a 4-foot microwave dish antenna and two racks of equipment on the bureau roof with the permission of the bureau and building management. The antenna will be used to transfer data from the embassy and a remote hf transmitter site.

2. A new video monitoring system was designed and installed at the bureau. The system uses a single control box that allows monitors to switch the Bang Ping video feeds to either positions 1 or 2, reproduce copies from one recorder to another, and through the use of a video enhancer, improve the quality of first generation copies.

3. One of the Dataproducts laser printers malfunctioned, with the problem being traced to the laser detector diode located in the optical assembly. The bureau informed Headquarters of the problem, and was directed to cannibalize the printer for spare parts to maintain its other laser printer.

4. A Trailblazer IDD modem was received 20 April and tests conducted with Okinawa. The tests proved to be inconclusive. Further tests will be conducted once two additional modems are received from Headquarters.

### D. Cruising

1. The Philippines' Quezon City RPN-9 television was observed to expand its newscast from 30 to 60 minutes a day Monday through Friday.

## III. ADMINISTRATION

### A. Visits

#### To The Bureau:

1. Staff Cruiser [ ] on TDY and A/1 15-30 April STAT  
during his PCS from Okinawa to Panama.

2. Okinawa Bureau Chief-designate [ ] on 18 April STAT  
while visiting Bangkok.

3. Chief/ESG [ ] on TDY 26-29 April. STAT

#### From The Bureau:

1. Bureau Chief [ ], who retired 30 April and STAT  
departed 1 May.

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[ ]  
Acting Chief, Bangkok Bureau

## BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR APRIL 1988

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	788,540
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	224,810
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,719

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	21,232 min.	22,035 min.	336.46 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

INDIA

Delhi General Overseas Service in English	5,190
Delhi Domestic Service in English	55,790
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	100
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	1,460

INDONESIA

Jakarta ANTARA in English	15,260
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MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	2,270
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English	19,650

PHILIPPINES

Quezon City RPN 9 Television in English	4,670
Manila PNA in English	8,740

SRI LANKA

Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English	21,950
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BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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IV. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	10,650	
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English		0
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English		0
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English		0

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Overseas Service in English	4,840	
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	3,850	
Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	120	
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English		320
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali		2,400

BRUNEI

Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English		0
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BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	6,860	
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English		1,460
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese		0
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese		0
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese		0

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	15,670	
Phnom Penh SPK in English		8,780
Phnom Penh SPK in French to KPL Vientiane		0
Phnom Penh SPK in French		7,000

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing International Service in Bengali	210		
Beijing International Service in Burmese	170		
Beijing International Service in Indonesian	310		
Beijing International Service in Lao	0		
Beijing International Service in Thai	0		
Beijing International Service in Vietnamese	610		
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	1,010		
Beijing in Hindi to India	320		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	1,210		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	200		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	21,540		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	7,610		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	4,490		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	9,130		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	370		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		88,940	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	5,190		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	55,790		
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	100		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	1,460		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		0	
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			600
Delhi PATRIOT in English			740

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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INDIA (continued)

Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English		2,830
Madras DINAMALAR in Tamil		270
Bombay NAVBHARAT TIMES in Hindi		780
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali		970

INDONESIA

Jakarta International Service in English	1,950	
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	6,680	
Jakarta ANTARA in English		15,260
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English		1,270
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English		980
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian		0
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian		2,350
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian		2,340
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian		1,630
Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian		1,370

LAOS

Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao	42,240	
Vientiane KPL in English		21,530
Vientiane KPL in English to SPK Phnom Penh		0
Vientiane KPL in French to SPK Phnom Penh		0
Vientiane SPK in French to SPK Phnom Penh		0
Vientiane PASASON in Lao		0
Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao		0

MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	5,960	
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English		0



	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>MALAYSIA</u> (continued)			
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	760		
Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	2,270		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		19,650	
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			0
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			0
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay			1,350
Kuala Lumpur BERITA MINGGU in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur MINGGUAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay			670
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Kathmandu External Service in English	180		
Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			540
<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>			
Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English			710
Wellington THE EVENING POST in English			2,340
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Islamabad Oversea Service in English	2,500		
Islamabad Oversea Service in Urdu	340		
Islamabad Domestic Service in English	8,810		
Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu	16,490		
Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English			0
Karachi DAWN in English			2,850
Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu			0
Lahore JANG in Urdu			460
Karachi NAWA-I-WAQF in Urdu			0

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>PHILIPPINES</u>			
Quezon City RPN 9 Television in English	4,670		
Manila PNA in English		8,740	
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	3,470		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			5,230
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			400
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	2,030		
Colombo Domestic Service in English	0		
Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil	0		
Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English		21,950	
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			940
Colombo SUN in English			1,020
Colombo WEEKEND in English			0
Colombo VIRAKESARI in Tamil			0
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	2,460		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian	0		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	6,270		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	1,050		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	4,250		
Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	0		
Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai	1,250		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			44,660
Bangkok THE NATION in English			29,610
Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai			0

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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THAILAND (continued)

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai		0
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai		720
Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai		0
Bangkok NAED NA in Thai		1,900
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai		2,600
Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai		0
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai		0
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai		0
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese		660
Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese		0
Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese		120

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow International Service in Tamil	0
Moscow International Service in Vietnamese	430
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	0
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	0
Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia	1,950
Moscow in Hindi to India	0
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	250
Moscow in Lao to Laos	1,640
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	0
Moscow in Urdu to India	0
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	0
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian	0

UNITED KINGDOM

London BBC World Service in English	1,380
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	<u>BROAD--</u> <u>CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS</u> <u>AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI--</u> <u>CATION</u>
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in English	12,430		
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	500		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	78,770		
Hanoi VNA in English		82,530	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			24,760
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			0
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			8,710
Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			910
Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese			0